



When in Rome

Full Diplomatic Plate for John Kerry in Rome

Page 8

US Secretary of State John Kerry, right and Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov laugh, during their meeting, at Villa Taverna, on Sunday, Dec. 14, 2014, in Rome. Kerry and Lavrov discussed the ongoing Middle East peace process, and rising tensions in Ukraine.

(AP Photo/Evan Vucci, Pool)

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Black churches pray in protest of police slayings

RACHEL ZOLL
AP Religion Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Congregants in African-American churches across the country wore black to Sunday services and prayed over the men in attendance in a symbolic stand against fatal police shootings of unarmed black men.

Bishop T.D. Jakes told worshippers at The Potter's House Church in Dallas that black men should not be "tried on the sidewalk." At Ebenezer AME Church in Fort Washington, Maryland, choir members sang the civil rights movement anthem "We Shall Overcome" for worshippers wearing T-shirts that read "Black Lives Matter" and "I Can't Breathe." Men at the West Angeles Church of God in Christ in Los Angeles stood more than four rows deep around the altar for a special blessing and message from the pastor, Presiding Bishop Charles E. Blake.

"Police forces are charged with protecting all our citizens," said Blake, leader



Senior Judge Theodore Newman, of the Historic Courthouse, wearing a "Hands Up, Don't Shoot" shirt, raises his clenched fist during a church service at the African Methodist Episcopal Church in Washington, Sunday, Dec. 14, 2014. Congregants in African-American churches across the country wore black to Sunday services and prayed over the men in attendance in a symbolic stand against police shootings of unarmed black men.

(AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta)

of the national Church of God in Christ, the largest black Pentecostal group in the U.S. "In a very special way, they are to abide by the laws they are called to

enforce. They should not bring fear to our citizens, but rather confidence." The churches were responding to a call from several historically African-

American denominations for what they called "Black Lives Matter" Sunday, in response to the recent police slayings of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, and

Eric Garner in New York, who repeatedly said "I can't breathe" as he died in a police chokehold.

The church actions came a day after marches and demonstrations by civil rights and other groups around the U.S. for changes to the criminal justice system.

"It is a time to hear God calling us to be relevant and responsive to the needs of people with us and around us," wrote Senior Bishop Lawrence Reddick of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, an organizer of Sunday's church action.

At morning services, the Rev. Lee P. Washington, pastor at Reid Temple AME Church in Glenn Dale, Maryland, called black clothing "serious dress for serious times." He said those who contend that the black men who were killed by officers "deserve what they got" for disobeying police, or whose deaths were nothing more than an "unfortunate tragedy," should think about the impact of the deaths on grieving families.



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Newtown victim's mom speaks out about gun violence

NEWTOWN, Connecticut (AP) — The mother of a first-grader killed in the Newtown school shooting rampage spoke out against gun violence Sunday on the second anniversary of the massacre, saying it has broken the hearts of other mothers across the country.

"And just like our hearts were broken and we can't breathe, the hearts of the mothers in Ferguson, in Bridgeport, in Hartford, in Florida, in New Haven, in Danbury, they can't breathe," said Nelba Marquez-Greene, who lost her daughter, Ana Grace, on Dec. 14, 2012.

"And we should care. We should care when our children are lost to gun violence." Marquez-Greene, speaking at The First Cathedral's church service

in Bloomfield, recalled the moment two years ago when she and her husband were in the Newtown firehouse, where officials were informing parents of the 20 children slain along with six educators at Sandy Hook Elementary School. She and her husband found their son, now a fifth-grader, but not their daughter.

"But in that same firehouse," she said, "my husband and I knew Ana was with Jesus and that we would see her again." A troubled 20-year-old gunman had shot his way into the school. He shot and killed his mother before driving to the school, and he committed suicide as police arrived. Marquez-Greene asked anyone feeling despair and the desire to commit "a senseless act of violence" to ask for prayer and



A makeshift memorial with crosses for the victims of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting massacre stands outside a home in Newtown, Conn., on the anniversary of the shootings. The mother of a first-grader killed in the Newtown school shooting spoke out against gun violence Sunday on the second anniversary of the massacre.

(AP Photo/Robert F. Bukaty)

"to know that we love you." She said she went to Washington to speak out against gun violence but felt that change would come not from the leaders there but "from us."

Greene's husband, Jimmy Greene, a saxophonist and composer who has dedicated a new album, "Beautiful

Life," to their daughter, also spoke and played at the service. Other churches across Connecticut remembered the victims Sunday as the Newtown community quietly marked the anniversary. At Newtown's St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, bells rang out and the victims' names were read. □

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Spending deal may not offer 2015 Congress road map

CHARLES BABINGTON

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress' bipartisan agreement to fund the government for another year shouldn't necessarily be seen as a road map for 2015.

The dynamics that tamed both parties' ideological wings on the weekend will change next year, handing new challenges to congressional leaders who often struggled just to keep the government's bills paid. Republicans will feel new pressures to show they can produce, even as 2016 presidential politics, and President Barack Obama's incentives to veto legislation, add uncertainties to the mix.

On the bright side — for people who abhor government gridlock, at least — last week's events showed that lawmakers can assemble bipartisan majorities in the political center on big measures that leave everyone a bit unhappy. The \$1.1 trillion spending bill will finance most of the government through September, making a repeat of the 2013 federal government shutdown unlikely.

The bill angered conservatives who wanted to block Obama's executive changes to immigration policy.

And it displeased liberals who say it unwisely loosens restrictions on risky Wall Street practices.

But Obama and most congressional leaders called it an acceptable compromise, the type of accord once common in Washington. The only top congressional leader to oppose it was House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi, and

bipartisan accords impossible, but they will pose new complications:

—Republicans will control both legislative chambers, not just the House of Representatives. This enhances their clout, of course. But it also will encourage some

Republicans will hold 54 of the Senate's 100 seats. Measures being filibustered need 60 votes to close debate and advance to a final vote.

—Obama may decide to veto some bills that Congress passes. Overriding

clude Republican Ted Cruz of Texas and Democrat Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts. Both tried to derail the big spending bill for different reasons.

Republican Sen. John McCain of Arizona, the party's 2008 presidential nominee, told CBS's "Face the Nation" on Sunday: "Unless we can show the American people that we can govern, then we're not going to elect a Republican president in 2016."

But it won't be easy, said Ron Bonjean, a former top Republican congressional aide. Even with Republican House and Senate majorities, he said, the party's agenda "could grind to a halt in the Senate because it will take 60 votes to pass anything."

Republican Sen. Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, the incoming majority leader, says the Senate will accomplish more because he will allow wider debate and more amendments to bills, which Democrats had sharply limited. He says Republicans are willing to make tough votes, even on Democratic amendments designed for political mischief.

"Partisanship itself has never been the problem," McConnell said in a statement Sunday. "The real problem has been a growing lack of confidence in the Senate's ability to mediate the tensions and disputes we've always had."



Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) talks with reporters after the Senate voted on a \$1.1 trillion spending bill to fund the government through the next fiscal year on Saturday, December 13, 2014 on Capitol Hill in Washington.

(AP Photo/Lauren Victoria Burke)

she stopped short of pressing her colleagues to kill it. The Senate will be in a session a few more days to deal with tax breaks, nominations and terrorism insurance. When the new Congress convenes next month, four important changes will occur. They don't make

conservative firebrands to demand politically unfeasible goals, such as repealing the president's signature health care law.

—Senate Democrats will use the same filibuster rules to block Republican measures that Republicans have used for six years.

veto is extremely difficult, requiring two-thirds majorities in the House and Senate.

—The 2016 presidential race, now underway, will complicate congressional politics. As many as five senators are considering joining the race. They in-



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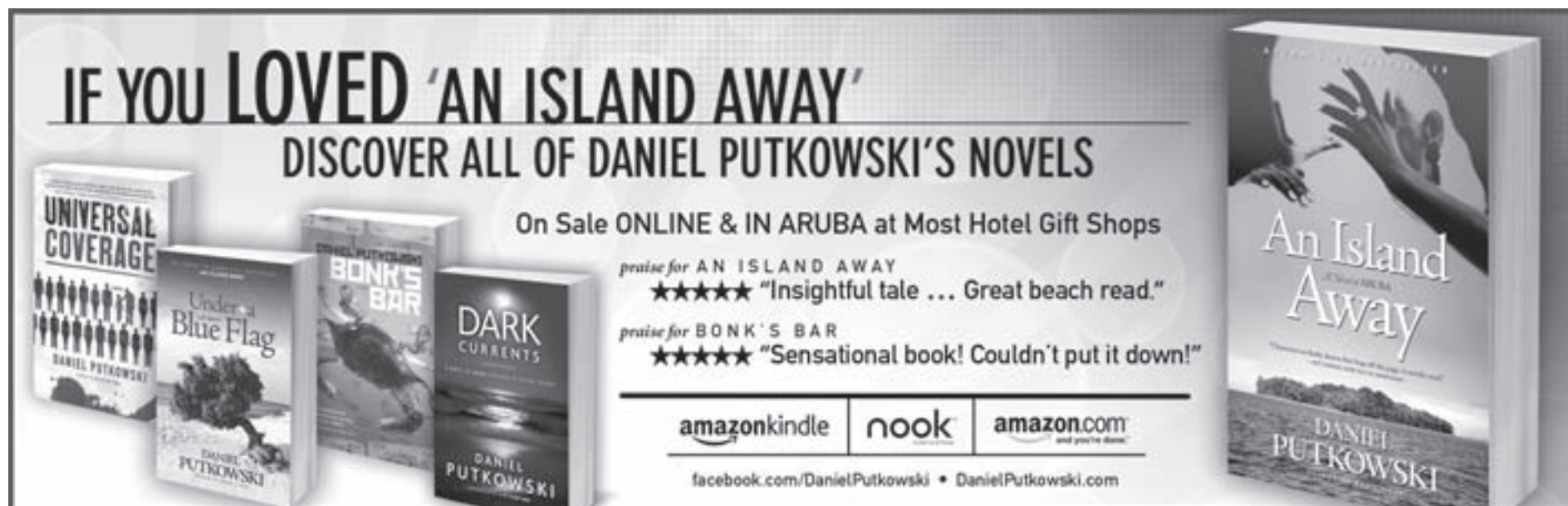
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CIA report revives legal debate on interrogation

ERIC TUCKER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP)—When the CIA sought permission to use harsh interrogation methods on a captured al-Qaida operative, the response from Bush administration lawyers was encouraging, even clinical.

In one of several memos forming the legal underpinnings for brutal interrogation techniques, the CIA was told that Abu Zubaydah could lawfully be placed in a box with an insect, kept awake for days at a time and slapped multiple times in the face. Waterboarding, too, was acceptable because it did not cause the lengthy mental anguish needed to meet the legal standard of torture, the 2002 Justice Department memo says.

The release last week of a Senate report cataloging years of such interrogation tactics has revived debate about legal opinions since discredited and withdrawn and about the decision to not prosecute the program's architects or officers who used the methods. Civil rights groups in the United States and abroad are renewing calls to prosecute those who relied on techniques that President Barack Obama has called torture.

"How can we seriously use the phrase 'rule of law' if crimes of this magnitude go uninvestigated and unprosecuted?" said Jameel Jaffer, the American Civil Liberties Union's deputy legal director.

The Justice Department, which spent years looking

into the matter, says it lacks sufficient evidence to convict anyone and found no new information in the report. It also is far from clear that any international case could be brought.

Justice Department officials said they will not revisit

the broader questions regarding the propriety of the examined conduct," the department said in a statement after the Senate report was released.

That conclusion followed an investigation led by special prosecutor John Dur-

ham for potential crimes in the deaths of two detainees, including one who was shackled to a cold concrete wall in a secret CIA prison, while in custody in Iraq and Afghanistan. In closing the investigation, the department said it had

legal guidelines set forth in the memos, which have been rescinded.

In great detail, the Bush administration memos explored the legality under the federal torture statute of varied interrogation methods contemplated by the CIA. The analysis established parameters for conduct, largely assuring the agency that actions now characterized by Obama as torture were legally permissible. The guidance was sought in the aftermath of Sept. 11, 2001, as the country feared another attack, and CIA Director John Brennan said Thursday at a news conference that he was confident the overall interrogation program saved lives.

One argument in the memos held that certain aggressive interrogation practices were permitted so long as they stopped short of producing pain equivalent to experiencing organ failure or death. Sleep deprivation, though uncomfortable, was judged acceptable because it did not cause severe physical pain, one memo states. Facial slaps were fine since they did not conjure fears of imminent death. Waterboarding was more problematic but did not result in the requisite "prolonged mental harm."

The government gave itself permission to use the techniques by defining torture "in such a way that almost any action could fall short of that definition," said William Aceves, a national security law expert at the California Western School of Law.



A workman slides a dustmop over the floor at the Central Intelligence Agency headquarters in Langley, Va. Senate investigators delivered a damning indictment of CIA interrogation practices after the 9/11 attacks, accusing the agency of inflicting pain and suffering on prisoners with tactics that went well beyond legal limits.

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

their 2012 decision to close the investigation, citing among other challenges the passage of time and the difficulty of proving beyond a reasonable doubt that crimes were committed, especially in light of government memos that gave interrogators extraordinary latitude.

"Our inquiry was limited to a determination of whether prosecutable offenses were committed. Importantly, our investigation was not intended to an-

swer the broader questions regarding the propriety of the examined conduct," the department said in a statement after the Senate report was released. That conclusion followed an investigation led by special prosecutor John Durham specifically looked

ham that begun in 2009 as an outgrowth of a probe into the destruction of videotapes of CIA interrogation tactics. The inquiry into interrogation tactics came amid the release of an internal CIA inspector general's report that said CIA interrogators once threatened to kill the children of a Sept. 11 suspect and suggested that another suspected terrorist would be forced to watch his mother being sexually assaulted.

Durham specifically looked "reviewed a tremendous volume of information" about detainees alleged to have been in U.S. custody but did not find enough evidence to convict anyone. The investigation focused on instances in which interrogators went beyond what was approved in memos from the Justice Department's Office of Legal Counsel. The Obama administration had said interrogators would not face charges if they followed

2 American babies born at 10:11, 12/13/14

CLEVELAND (AP) — Two U.S. babies were born at just the right minute: 10:11 on 12/13/14.

Seven-pound, 14-ounce (3.53-kilo) Hazel Grace was born Saturday morning to Leisha Campbell and Shawn Zimmerman at Cleveland's Fairview Hospital. Her family already knew she'd be born on Saturday's special date. They didn't know she'd get the minute right, too.

"Everyone is telling us we should play the lottery," Campbell said. "We feel this is a lucky day and are excited to get family photos with Santa." Hazel was getting a visit from her three older sisters, Aubree, Adalynn and Josalyn, on Sunday. The family lives in Cleveland.

In Billings, Montana, the time and date aligned for a baby girl, and the infant's weight came close to making the event even more unique. Quincy Kessler was born at St. Vincent Healthcare in Billings at 10:11 a.m. on 12/13/14.

Even more remarkable, her birth weight, at 7.84 pounds (3.56 kilograms), almost aligned with the other numbers. A fraction of an ounce more,



In this image provided by the Cleveland Clinic, Leisha Campbell, right, rests with her newborn daughter, Hazel Grace, along with her husband, Shawn Zimmerman, left, and daughter Adalynn at Fairview Hospital in Cleveland on Saturday, Dec. 13, 2014. The seven-pound, 14-ounce baby was born at 10:11 a.m. on Dec. 13, 2014, or 12/13/14, the last sequential calendar date for at least 20 years. (AP Photo/Cleveland Clinic)

and she would have weighed 7.89 pounds. The baby is the second daughter born to Trenton and Melida Kessler.

Melida Kessler told The Billings Gazette that nurses in the hospital room noted around 10:05 a.m. that the 10:11 time might work out. At that point, she says she started to push and Quincy came out at 10:11. Saturday's Dec. 13, 2014, represented the last sequential calendar date for at least 20 years, if you count Jan. 2, 2034, or 89 years if you choose to wait for Jan. 2, 2103. □

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Full Diplomatic Plate for John Kerry in Rome

STEVEN ERLANGER

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LONDON - With Israel in the middle of an election campaign and the Europeans pressing for a U.N. Security Council resolution on a negotiating deadline that Israel opposes, Secretary of State John Kerry traveled to Rome on Sunday to try to square the circle.

Kerry will spend the next few days meeting Israeli and Palestinian leaders, the new European foreign policy chief and the foreign ministers of Russia, France, Britain and Germany in an effort to find a compromise that Washington can accept.

Kerry, now in Rome, met with Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov of Russia on Sunday. In addition to the Israeli-

Palestinian issue, the two men discussed tensions over Syria and especially Ukraine. Washington has harshly condemned Russia's annexation of Crimea and Russian military intervention in eastern Ukraine, which Moscow continues to deny.

Washington is seeking to "de-escalate tensions" in Ukraine, U.S. officials say, but without confronting Russia militarily or providing Ukraine lethal military.

Kerry is scheduled to meet Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel in Rome on Monday, and then fly to Paris to meet European colleagues, before traveling to London to meet Palestinian and Arab League officials on Tuesday.

A senior State Department



US Secretary of State John Kerry, left, meets with Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov at Villa Taverna, on Sunday, Dec. 14, 2014, in Rome. Kerry and Lavrov discussed the ongoing Middle East peace process, and rising tensions in Ukraine.

(AP Photo/Evan Vucci, Pool)

official told journalists Sunday that Kerry was in Rome "to hear from and engage with other stakeholders" on the Middle East, "to hear their views and to the best of our ability work toward a common path forward."

The Security Council is working on two resolutions, with votes possible before Christmas, which Netanyahu has strongly opposed. One draft resolution, put forward by the Palestinians through the Jordanians, would set November 2016 as a deadline for the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the occupied West Bank. The other draft resolution, being formulated by France, would call for a return to Israeli-Palestinian negotiations on a final peace treaty to achieve a two-state solution within two years. That draft lays out some of the parameters of a permanent deal, suggests the recognition of Palestine as a full member of the United Nations in the meantime and describes Israeli settlements beyond

the 1967 armistice lines as obstacles to peace.

U.S. diplomatic officials have said that there is no clear consensus in Europe or the Security Council around either draft, and Washington would prefer to find compromise language for a single resolution that it can support. For Washington to veto a Security Council resolution on Palestinian statehood would be awkward, and so would a failure to veto a resolution fiercely opposed by Israel. A State Department official traveling with Kerry said that it was "premature" for Washington to lay out a position since there were no final texts to consider, but that Washington regarded deadlines as the wrong way to approach "a very complicated security negotiation." The official spoke only on the condition of anonymity in accordance with diplomatic practice.

"We all want to defuse tension and reduce the potential for violence," the offi-

cial said.

Washington appears to be contemplating either a postponement of any resolution until after the Israeli elections or a softer resolution calling for renewed negotiations without a fixed deadline, but some Security Council members are likely to consider that an insufficiently urgent restatement of current positions. Netanyahu, who was asked to travel to Rome by Kerry to coordinate their positions, made his own position clear Sunday during the regular Israeli Cabinet meeting.

"This is an attempt to compel us - by means of U.N. decisions - to withdraw to the 1967 lines within two years," he said.

Such a development would lead to bringing "Islamic extremists to the suburbs of Tel Aviv and to the heart of Jerusalem," he added. "We will not allow this. We will strongly and responsibly rebuff this. Let there be no doubt, this will be rejected." □

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Deal salvaged in Peru:

At UN climate talks, a crack in rich-poor barrier

KARL RITTER

Associated Press

LIMA, Peru (AP) — A last-minute deal that salvaged U.N. climate talks from collapse Sunday sends a signal the rich-poor divide that long held up progress can be overcome with a year to go before a landmark pact is supposed to be adopted in Paris.

Still, it remains to be seen whether governments can come up with a new formula for how countries in different stages of development should contribute in a way that keeps global warming from reaching dangerous levels.

"This issue will be contentious and it will need to be worked through all the way to Paris," U.S. climate envoy Todd Stern said after the marathon talks in Lima finished, more than 30 hours behind schedule.

The U.N. talks were still far away from reaching any agreement on reducing emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases to a level that scientists say would keep global warming in check. But the Paris agreement would be the first to call on all countries to control their emissions.

The U.S. and other developed nations say that means tearing down the firewall in negotiations that compels only rich countries to rein in emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases.

Though it was agreed in 2011 that goals set in Paris would be "applicable to all," many developing countries worry they will be required to take on emissions controls that stymie their economic growth. In Lima they angrily rejected a draft text that made no

mention of different responsibilities and capabilities to fight global warming. "We are in a differentiated world. That is the reality," Malaysian negotiator Gurdial Singh Nijar told delegates. "Many of you colonized us, so we started from a completely different point."

Despite the tough rhetoric, the conference ended Sunday with a compromise based on a groundbreaking U.S.-China deal on emissions targets last month. The Lima decision noted the principle in the 1992 U.N. climate change convention that countries have "common but differentiated responsibilities" to tackle climate change. But like the U.S.-China deal, it added that this should be seen "in light of different national circumstances," suggesting countries' responsibilities change over time as they develop.

"It sounds like a tiny thing, but it's very important," said Nathaniel Keohane, vice president of the Environmental Defense Fund. "I think we're starting to see the plates move."

How to interpret what it means in practice is going to be critical over the next year as countries firm up their emissions targets for the Paris agreement.

Asked about the implications of the Lima deal, Chinese negotiator Su Wei repeated China's mantra that the purpose of the Paris agreement is to "reinforce and enhance" the 1992 convention, not rewrite it.

"This paragraph may represent a compromise that both sides can interpret as they choose to," said Alden Meyer of the Union of Concerned Scientists.



Delegates attend the U.N. Climate Change Conference in Lima, Peru. A last-minute deal salvaged UN climate talks from collapse Sunday.

(AP Photo/Juan Karita)

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Pope:

Enough gloom, try joy ahead of Christmas

FRANCES D'EMILIO
Associated Press

ROME (AP) — Pope Francis is encouraging people to be joyful, saying, "We've never heard of a sad saint."

Some 50,000 people flocked to St. Peter's Square for the pope's traditional Sunday noontime window appearance. Among them were many children clutching figurines

of baby Jesus for Francis to bless for Christmas crèche scenes at home or school. Francis said: "Man's heart desires joy. Every family, every people, aspires to happiness."

He said being "missionaries of joy" should be part of lifestyles to help people through difficulties. Holding up a pocket-sized prayer book, he urged the crowd to take free copies being distributed in the square. To symbolize joy in anticipation of Christmas, priests worldwide donned rose-colored vestments, just as the pope did Sunday evening for a Mass he celebrated at a parish in a working-class neighborhood on Rome's outskirts. During his homily, Francis said that this Sunday is known as the "Sunday of joy" in the Catholic church. Many people in the rush toward Christmas fret about "all they still haven't" done for holiday preparations, he said. But, Francis said: "Think of all the good things life has given you." "It hurts to see Christians with a bitter face, restless with bitterness because they are not at peace," he said. "Saints have the face of joy." □



Pope Francis greets faithful during a visit at the St. Joseph parish church in Rome, Sunday, Dec. 14, 2014. Pope Francis will celebrate his 78th birthday on Dec. 17. Pope Francis is encouraging people to strive for joy, telling his worldwide flock, "We've never heard of a sad saint." Some 50,000 people came to St. Peter's Square to cheer the pope during his traditional Sunday window appearance (AP Photo/Gregorio Borgia)

Hamas holds rally to mark anniversary

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — The Islamic militant group Hamas displayed rockets and other heavy weapons Sunday during a rally marking the 27th anniversary of its founding.

It also launched a drone that prompted Israel to scramble fighter jets in a precautionary measure, the Israeli military said. Several thousand people attended the show of force in Gaza City, a lower turnout than in previous Hamas anniversary rallies. The group's leaders watched from a stage, including former Gaza Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh, who brandished an assault rifle and flashed a V-for-victory sign. Sunday's march came three-and-a-half months after the end of a 50-day war between Israel and Hamas. It was the third and bloodiest round of fighting between the two since late 2008, with some 2,200 people killed on the Palestinian side and 72 on the Israeli side.

Despite claims of victory by both Israel and Hamas, the fighting failed to resolve underlying conflicts that contributed to the summer war.

Israel says it launched the operation in response to nonstop Hamas rocket fire. Hamas said it was fighting to lift an Israeli-Egyptian border blockade first imposed on Gaza after the Islamic militant group violently seized the territory from forces loyal to the Western-backed Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas in 2007. □

Journalists, police are detained in Turkish raids

SUZAN FRASER
Associated Press

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — Police conducted raids in a dozen Turkish cities Sunday, detaining at least 24 people — including journalists, TV producers and police — known to be close to a movement led by a U.S.-based moderate Islamic cleric who is a strong critic of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. It was the latest crackdown on cleric Fethullah Gulen's movement, which the government has accused of

orchestrating an plot to try to bring it down. The government says the group's followers were behind corruption allegations that last year that forced four Cabinet ministers to resign. Gulen, who lives in self-imposed exile in Pennsylvania, denies the accusations. During a speech on Saturday, Erdogan vowed to "bring down the network of treachery and make it pay." EU foreign affair chief Federica Mogherini and

Johannes Hahn, commissioner for European enlargement negotiations, said the raids "are incompatible with the freedom of media, which is a core principle of democracy." They suggested the issue could reflect on Turkey's bid to join the European Union. In Washington, State Department spokeswoman issued a written statement of concern. "As Turkey's friend and ally, we urge the Turkish authorities to ensure their actions do not vio-

late these core values and Turkey's own democratic foundations," she said. The state-run Anadolu Agency said a court issued a warrant to arrest 32 people connected to the movement, and that 24 of them were detained in raids in Istanbul and other cities across Turkey on Sunday. They included Ekrem Dumanli, the chief editor of Zaman newspaper, who was taken into custody at his paper's Istanbul headquarters, which was broadcast live on television. □



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Japan's ruling coalition wins big in elections

KEN MORITSUGU
Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — Japan's ruling coalition won a resounding victory in lower house elections Sunday, firming up Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's hold on power as he prepares to push forward on several politically difficult fronts.

The conservative Liberal Democratic Party, which has ruled for most of the post-World War II era, locked up a solid majority, and appeared headed to winning at least two-thirds of the House of Representatives together with its coalition partner, the Buddhist-backed Komei party. In a series of TV interviews

from party headquarters, Abe said his top priority was the economy. "Economy first," he told national broadcaster NHK, adding that he would also tackle other major issues, including national security.

The U.S. government hopes Abe will be able to win passage of a series of bills needed to expand Japan's military role, so that it can play a bigger part in their alliance. A heated debate is expected when parliament takes up the legislation, likely after local elections in April.

With most of the votes counted, the Liberal Democrats had won more than 280 of the 475 seats in the



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, second right, and Secretary General Sadakazu Tanigaki, second left, smile as they place a red rosette on the name of his Liberal Democratic Party's winning candidate during ballot counting for the lower house elections at the party headquarters in Tokyo, Sunday, Dec. 14, 2014. Japan's ruling coalition was headed for a landslide victory in lower house elections Sunday, firming up Abe's hold on power as he prepares to push forward on several politically difficult fronts.

(AP Photo/Shizuo Kambayashi)

Britain to seek access to CIA torture report

DANICA KIRKA
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — A U.K. parliamentary panel wants access to information not made public in a U.S. Senate report that may pertain to Britain's role in the interrogation and rendition of terror suspects following the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks. Malcolm Rifkind, chairman of the Intelligence and Security Committee, told the BBC on Sunday that the panel investigating allegations of British involvement in torture would request access to the Senate's findings related to Britain. Prime Minister David Cameron's office has acknowledged that some parts of the report were blacked out for national security reasons, but says none of it related to any alleged British involvement that in "activity that would be unlawful in the U.K."

The requests for the material to be omitted from the

executive summary published last week was made by British intelligence agencies to the CIA, rather than the government.

The U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee's report on CIA interrogations exposed years of misrepresentations that seem designed to boost the case for the effectiveness of brutal interrogations.

When asked whether he was hopeful he'd get the information, Rifkind replied, "I do not say I would be confident."

The CIA report has led to demands that Britain halt negotiations with the United States over the use of Diego Garcia, a British atoll in the Indian Ocean where the Americans have a military base. Britain has previously acknowledged that Diego Garcia was twice used by the U.S. as a refueling stop during the 2002 secret transfers of two terrorism suspects.

lower house, and topped 310 with the Komei party, according to NHK. The main opposition party, the Democratic Party of Japan, had won about 70 seats. The big victory will give a boost to Abe's agenda, including economic reforms,

nuclear plant restarts and his long-term goal of revising Japan's constitution. But opposition from vested interests and sizeable segments of the public could still stymie his plans.

"I believe the results show that we have received

a public mandate for the Abe administration's achievement over the past two years," Abe said in a live television interview with Tokyo Broadcasting System. "But we should not be complacent about the results."

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ALBA countries gather in Cuba on 10th anniversary

A. RODRIGUEZ
Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — The left-leaning regional economic and diplomatic bloc known as ALBA marked its 10th anniversary Sunday amid pressures made by tumbling oil prices on petroleum-producing countries such as top ALBA member Venezuela.

Presidents Nicolas Maduro, of Venezuela; Daniel Ortega, of Nicaragua; and Evo Morales, of Bolivia joined Raul Castro, of Cuba for the festivities in Havana, where the group was founded. Foreign ministers from other bloc-member countries also attended the gathering. The meeting wrapped up in the afternoon with a 40-point general declaration about some of the top issues in the region, such as ways to help landlocked Bolivia's access to the ocean, and the peace process aimed at ending the decades-old conflict in Colombia.

The summit was held against a backdrop of falling oil prices that worry petroleum exporters like Venezuela. The South American country in recent years has

provided fuel on preferential terms to Cuba and some other ALBA members through a related regional grouping called Petrocar-

prices "could have severe costs for Venezuela's international commitments with ALBA and the countries benefiting from preferential

tion.

ALBA was created in 2004 by the late Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, and Cuban leader Fidel



Cuba's President Raul Castro, center, talks with Bolivia's President Evo Morales, right, and Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro, during the official photo of the ALBA summit at the Revolution Palace in Havana, Sunday, Dec 14, 2014. (AP Photo/Ismael Francisco, Cubadebate)

tribe. Tumbling fuel prices, or their possible effect on ALBA agreements, were not discussed during the summit's public session.

Arturo Lopez-Levy, a Cuban economist and researcher at the University of Denver, said the drop in petroleum

energy agreements."

The Bolivarian Alliance known as ALBA pulls together center-left countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, and places much of its focus on social programs dealing with such issues as health and educa-

Castro, who has since retired. ALBA aims to counter US influence in the region and Raul Castro on Sunday called ALBA "a real alternative to the economic and social model" of many developed countries, especially the United States. □

LATIN BRIEFS

Nicaragua naval operators find capsized vessel

PUERTO CABEZAS, Nicaragua (AP) — Rescue crews in Nicaragua say they have found a fishing boat that capsized in the Caribbean last week with 50 people aboard. Eighteen fishermen who were aboard the lobster boat MN WaywardWind remain missing. It overturned about 35 nautical miles (65 kilometers) southeast of Puerto Cabezas. Vilma Garcia, the wife of one of eight men rescued Friday, said her husband Porfilio Levy suffered dehydration and severe sunburn and died a day later. She said Sunday that the 36-year-old had been a fisherman for five years. The boat was on a 15-day trip when it was hit by a huge wave Tuesday. □

Protests against amnesty for FARC held in Colombia

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — More than 5,000 people have marched through the streets of Colombia's capital to protest possible amnesty for leftist rebels as part of peace negotiations. Many of the marchers are backers of former President Alvaro Uribe, who has bitterly opposed the peace process started by his successor, Juan Manuel Santos. In 2012, Santos launched talks in Cuba with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia in hopes of ending a half-century-old conflict. Rebels say they don't expect an eventual deal to lead to prison time for their leaders. Uribe and allies say the rebels should answer for killings, kidnapping and drug trafficking and accuse Santos of overlooking rebel atrocities. □

Haiti PM resigns amid political discontent

EVENS SANON
DANICA COTO
Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)

— Prime Minister Laurent Lamothe announced early Sunday that he was resigning along with several ministers in the wake of violent anti-government protests and a commission's call for him to step down.

In a speech that was delayed past midnight, Lamothe said he was leaving "with a sense of accomplishment," adding: "This country has undergone a deep and dynamic transformation and

a real change in benefit of its people."

President Michel Martelly said earlier he accepted the findings of the commission that had recommended Lamothe's replacement.

Martelly appointed Lamothe as prime minister in 2012, and some political analysts believe Lamothe might seek the presidency in upcoming elections.

Lamothe's resignation complicates the current political situation because nominations for a new prime minister require approval from Parliament and it is unclear

whether someone would be nominated before Parliament is dissolved in January, said Michael Deibert, author of "Notes from the Last Testament: The Struggle for Haiti."

He noted that Lamothe was Martelly's third nomination for prime minister during a drawn-out selection process.

"Without a functioning Parliament and without a prime minister, I'm afraid it could be a tumultuous time in January," Deibert said in a telephone interview from Cap-Haitien.

He warned that political instability would undermine confidence in the government and the confidence that the international community has in Haiti in terms of investment. "That's not an image that Haiti wants to project to the world," Deibert said.

Haiti's capital has endured a growing number of violent demonstrations in recent weeks during which protesters have demanded the holding of elections that were expected in 2011 and the resignations of Lamothe as well as Martelly. □



Ospitalita Italiana Award Celebrated With a Party at Hostaria Da Vittorio

PALM BEACH - Master Chef Vittorio Muscariello of Hostaria Da Vittorio, assisted by his family members and by Otmar Oduber, the island's Minister of Tourism unveiled the Ospitalita Italiana bronze plaque awarded to him by the Chamber of Commerce of Italy and multiple ministries including the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Culture, Economic Affairs, Tourism, Agriculture, Alimentation and Forests, recognizing his commitment to everything genuinely Italian, especially his famous cuisine.

Master Chef Vittorio also unveiled the certificate which made him the Italian International Ambassador of Taste and Culture.

The Ospitalita Italiana award program was created by the government of Italy for the purpose of rewarding Italian restaurants outside the country for complying with ten difficult standards of excellence. The project "Italian Hospitality, Italian Restaurants in the World," ensures global compliance with quality, typical to Italian hospitality, protecting the history, culture and most importantly the authenticity of the Italian kitchen.

The party immediately after the award reveal expressed the Master Chef's enthusiasm and joy as it served all of his house spe-



cialties to a great number of movers and shakers in the community in an elegant party that went on to the wee hours over free flowing cocktails and dance music with Robert Jeandor and his Solo Banda Show.

Vittorio's dinner buffet will still be talked about, many years from now as the Master Chef dazzled his partygoers with an incredible display of antipasti freddi including all the famous Italian delicacies, Prosciutto di Parma, Salami, Coppa, Mozzarella fresco, Capresa, Pecorino, Rocca Reggiano and Talaggo; Piatti caldi including Penne con Frutti di Mare, Orancini di Riso, Panzerotti, Salciccia Italiana and Piza Margarita, Funghi and Verdura. The dessert table was loaded with Pasticceria Mignon, including Baba Napoletano, Cassata Si-

ciliana, Cannoli Siciliana, Tortaletta di Frutti di Bosco, Torta di Cioccolato, Bigne di Cioccolato Bianco and Pasta di Mandarile.

Master Chef Vittorio explained that in order to qualify for the award and be recognized by "Italian Hospitality, Italian Restaurants of the World," a restaurant must comply with a great number of de-

manding standards and commit to serving Protected Designation of Origin Products, D.O.P., because Italian cuisine, is a result of many centuries, of how the Italian society ate and entertained, and lived. This unique quality of life is protected by Ospitalita Italiana because food just like paintings and music is a form of art, and it should

be protected against adulterations and falsifications to preserve its history, quality, culture and authenticity.

Hostaria da Vittorio was visited by an anonymous inspector who verified all requirements. Following the visit Hostaria da Vittorio joined the select few hundred Ospitalita Italiana Certified Restaurant around the globe.

The Aruban community joined the Minister of Tourism congratulating Master Chef Vittorio for his accomplishment, which he shared with his long time partner architect Dan Oduber, and his kitchen and dining room brigades. Congratulations Vittorio, enjoy the celebration of your award, your commitment to excellence paid off with the "Italian Hospitality, Italian Restaurants of the World," certification. □



RAGE Silver Boutique Opens New Location at Royal Plaza Mall!



ORANJESTAD - RAGE Silver Boutique opened their first location in 1998 and has expanded now to three stores; Renaissance Marketplace and Royal Plaza Mall in downtown and Palm Beach Plaza Mall at the high rise hotels area. They are known for their great extensive selection of sterling silver jewelry from all over the world, of which most pieces are hand se-

lected by the owner herself, Marny. Last week, at their opening of their new and 3rd location at the Royal Plaza Mall, they introduced the Shop in Shop of the brand Uno de 50 from Spain. Silver plated jewelry with leather, Swarovski crystals or men made stones. Originally they only made 50 pieces per item, which is why the name "Uno de 50" mean-



ing "one of 50". But now that the line is expanding tremendously all over the world, of course this is no longer the case. They are opening stores and Shop in shops in Europe, Asia, US and now also in the Caribbean. Each piece is hand-crafted and has a name or saying that goes with it. This

is a must see collection. They carry Silver designer lines like Tisento, Chamilla, Crislu, Rebecca and many more.....But also gold plated jewelry to cater to those gold lovers. Gold plated over silver with CZ; rings, necklaces bracelets and a big variety of earrings. These items are great for all ages and also great as gifts. Also added to their collection at this new store is Melinda Maria. A gold plated line from LA of statement pieces with CZ and semi-precious stones.

come and see what they, Marny and her husband, have designed and created over the years. All stores carry different collections so make sure you pass by at least two of their stores. As they also carry more watch brands like Guess, GC, Fossil, Storm and Nautica. Jewelry from a local designer from Curacao BECK gold filled and/or plated with Swarovski crystals and semi-precious stones. Guess jewelry and Buddha to Buddha by a Dutch designer all handmade in Indonesia.



Marny travels all over the world to look for new trends and collections to keep her customers intrigued and excited. For those who want a more complete look, you can also find handbags by GIGI New York, all made of high quality leather. Sunglasses by Guess and watches from Vince Camuto. Not to forget, nice plain silver pieces with or without stones and trendy Stainless steel jewelry for woman and men. They invite you to

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Ospitalita Italiana Award Celebrated With a Party at Hostaria Da Vittorio



Continued from page 13

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Thursday	Free Slot Tournament \$625 in cash prizes Tournament starts at 8pm — Registration at 6pm Must accumulate 25 points during the week to be eligible
Friday	Santa's Crazy Cash \$800 in cash prizes The more you play the more chances you have! For every 25 points earned during the week redeem your ticket for Santa's Crazy Cash First drawing starts at 9pm
Saturday	Table Mania (chips) \$800 in cash prizes First drawing starts at 9pm
Sunday	4X Fun Points 10am - 12noon & 6pm - 9pm

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the climate, beaches, restaurants – especially Châlet Suisse Restaurant, and Aruba is paradise for them. The certificate was presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Mrs. Monique Silvana and Mr. Bob Curtis GM representing the Casa Del Mar Beach Resort. □



New England clinches 6th straight AFC East title

Page 20

New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady, left, celebrates with head coach Bill Belichick after defeating the Miami Dolphins 41-13 in an NFL football game Sunday, Dec. 14, 2014, in Foxborough, Mass. Associated Press

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Richardson wins speed-skating sprint double

HEERENVEEN, Netherlands (AP) — Heather Richardson won the speedskating World Cup 1,500 and 500 meter races Sunday to add to her victory a day earlier in the 1,000. Richardson's American teammate Brittany Bowe was second in both events, just as she was second in Saturday's 1,000. Marrit Leenstra of the Netherlands was third in the 1,500 and Lee Sang-hwa of

South Korea was third in the 500. Richardson won the 1,500 in one minute, 53.87 seconds, impressing Ireen Wust, who finished fourth. "That is extremely fast," the Dutch skater said. Jan Szymanski of Poland won the men's 1,500 in 1:45.92, beating Dutchman Wouter olde Heuvel into second. American veteran Shani Davis was third. Sprinter Pavel Kulizhnikov

also won his third race of the weekend, taking the second 500-meter race of the World Cup meet in 34.58 seconds. The Russian won the first 500 on Friday and added the 1,000 on Saturday. Artur Was of Poland, the winner of both 500 races last week in Berlin, was second in Sunday's 500 and Jan Smeekens of the Netherlands finished third. □



Heather Richardson of the U.S. competes to win the women's 1500 meters race of the World Cup Speed Skating at Thialf skating rink in Heerenveen, northern Netherlands, Sunday, Dec. 14, 2014.

Associated Press

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Thursday	Random Pick Slot Winner Dinner for Two at LG Smith, Lunch for two at Aquarius & \$50 Free Play Cash Gentleman Night For each 10 points earned on same day redeem a ticket to enter the drawing for \$300 at 10pm
Friday	Seasons Dazzle Night \$1100 in cash prizes <small>First drawing starts at 9pm</small>
Saturday	Sizzling Santa's Cash Night \$2000 in cash prizes <small>First drawing starts at 9pm</small>
Sunday	4x Points 6pm - 9pm

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Penguins star Crosby diagnosed with the mumps

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Add Pittsburgh Penguins star Sidney Crosby to the growing list of NHL players dealing with the mumps.



The Penguins announced the diagnosis Sunday after holding the two-time MVP out of games Friday and Saturday as a precaution when swelling developed on the right side of Crosby's face. Crosby underwent further testing Saturday. The team says Crosby should be through the infectious stage by Monday but will not play Monday night when Pittsburgh hosts the Tampa Bay Lightning. Crosby received a booster shot against the virus before traveling to Russia for the Winter Olympics in February. The NHL is dealing with a widespread outbreak of the virus, with players from Anaheim, Minnesota, the New York Rangers and the New Jersey Devils among those affected. □



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Oregon QB Marcus Mariota wins Heisman Trophy

RALPH D. RUSSO

AP College Football Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Marcus Mariota has won the Heisman Trophy, becoming the first Oregon player to earn college football's top individual honor.

A pinpoint passer with wide-receiver speed, Mariota came into his junior season as the favorite to win the Heisman and delivered a performance that turned the presentation ceremony at a theater in Times Square into a foregone conclusion.

"I had to give thanks to so many people because where I am today, it's all do to all those people," Mariota said. "It's hard not to get emotional. It's been a long journey. My emotions got the best of me."

Mariota had twice as many points (2,534) as second-place finisher Melvin Gordon (1,250), the record-breaking running back from Wisconsin. The other finalist, Alabama

receiver Amari Cooper, was third. Mariota received the second-highest percentage of possible points (90.92) in Heisman history, behind only Ohio State quarterback Troy Smith, who had 91.63 in 2006.

The first Hawaii native to win the Heisman has accounted for a Pac-12-record 53 touchdowns (38 passing, 14 rushing and one receiving) while directing the Ducks' warp-speed spread offense, and leading Oregon to a spot in the first College Football Playoff.

"In Hawaii, if one person is successful, the entire state is successful," he said, draped in leis at his news conference.

It will be a matchup of Heisman-winning quarterbacks in the Rose Bowl semifinal Jan. 1 with Mariota and the second-seeded Ducks facing Florida State and Jameis Winston. "I'm just looking forward to getting back on the field and playing again," Mariota said. "We do have a team goal." □



In this photo provided by the Heisman Trust, Oregon quarterback Marcus Mariota holds the Heisman Trophy after being named college football's best player during the Heisman Trophy presentation in New York on Saturday, Dec. 13, 2013. Associated Press

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NFL Capsules

Bengals rough up Manziel, Browns in 30-0 blowout

CLEVELAND (AP) — CLEVELAND (AP) — Johnny Manziel spent his first NFL start being chased and taunted by Cincinnati defenders as the Bengals rudely welcomed the hyped rookie quarterback to the league with a 30-0 demolition of the Cleveland Browns on Sunday.

Manziel failed to live up to the overwhelming build-up surrounding his debut

as the AFC North-leading Bengals (9-4-1) built a 20-point halftime lead and rolled to their fourth straight road win.

Bengals rookie Jeremy Hill rushed for 148 yards and two touchdowns, backing up his postgame trash talk of the Browns following a loss to them last month.

Manziel, promoted over the slumping Brian Hoyer to spark the Browns (7-7), finished

10 of 18 for 80 yards and two interceptions. He was sacked three times, under pressure all afternoon and had Bengals players imitating his signature "money-rubbing" gesture more than once.

The Bengals got their first shutout since Dec. 21, 2008 in Cleveland.

Patriots 41, Dolphins 13
FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP) — New England clinched



Cincinnati Bengals defensive end Wallace Gilberry (95) sacks Cleveland Browns quarterback Johnny Manziel in the first quarter of an NFL football game Sunday, Dec. 14, 2014, in Cleveland.
Associated Press

the AFC East title for the sixth straight season as Tom Brady threw two touchdown passes in a big third quarter.

Leading 14-13 at halftime, the Patriots scored on four consecutive series while piling up 24 points, the most in any third period in team history.

New England (11-3) can secure home-field advantage throughout the AFC playoffs by beating the New York Jets and Buffalo Bills. Miami (7-7) saw its slim postseason hopes dwindle further.

The Dolphins cut the lead to one point at halftime on Ryan Tannehill's 32-yard touchdown pass to Mike Wallace.

Colts 17, Texans 10
INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Andrew Luck threw two touchdown passes and the Colts won their second straight AFC South title.

Indianapolis (10-4) has won four straight.

It sure wasn't easy. Luck was 18 of 34 with 187 yards and one interception on the same day Reggie Wayne passed Peyton Manning for the most games and wins in franchise history. Wayne has played in 209 games, win-

ning 142.

Houston (7-7) lost starting quarterback Ryan Fitzpatrick with a left leg injury in the second quarter. Rookie Tom Savage replaced Fitzpatrick and was ineffective, going 10 of 19 for 127 yards.

The Texans took a 7-0 lead on Kendrick Lewis' 27-yard interception return. Luck tied it with a 26-yard pass to Hakeem Nicks. Luck hooked up with Dwayne Allen on a 3-yard pass to make it 14-7 before halftime. Indy sealed it with a late field goal.

Bills 31, Packers 13
ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. (AP) — Bacarri Rambo intercepted two Aaron Rodgers passes and Marcus Thigpen scored on a 75-yard punt return.

Defensive end Mario Williams also forced Rodgers to fumble, which led to running back Eddie Lacy being tackled in the end zone for a safety with 1:51 left. Dan Carpenter hit all three field goal attempts, including a 51-yarder in the second half to help keep Buffalo (8-6) in the AFC playoff picture.

Continued on next page

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NFL

Continued from previous page

The Bills were also have their first eight-win season since going 9-7 in 2004.

The Packers (10-4) had a five-game win streak snapped, blowing an opportunity to get closer to their sixth consecutive playoff berth.

Rodgers finished 17 of 42 for 185 yards, and two interceptions.

Steelers 27, Falcons 20

ATLANTA (AP) — Ben Roethlisberger threw for 360 yards and William Gay returned an interception for a touchdown as the Steelers (9-5) remained a half-game behind Cincinnati in the AFC North with their second straight win.

pass to Roddy White. But the Steelers clinched the victory with their final possession, converting twice on third down to run out the clock.

Ravens 20, Jaguars 12

BALTIMORE (AP) — The Ravens sacked rookie Blake Bortles eight times and returned a blocked punt for a touchdown.

Baltimore (9-5) gained only 31 yards rushing through three quarters and scored just once with its offense on the field. But the defense was solid, and special teams helped the Ravens stay in the thick of the AFC playoff chase.

Terrell Suggs was credited with 2 1/2 sacks and rookie Timmy Jernigan, starting for the suspended Haloti Ngata, had two.

South playoff race.

The win, coupled with Atlanta's loss to Pittsburgh, left the Panthers a half-game behind New Orleans in the division. Carolina (5-8-1) can move into first place if the Saints lose to Chicago on Monday night. Anderson was 25 of 40 and improved to 2-0 as a starter in place of Cam Newton, sidelined while recovering from a car accident Tuesday that left him with two fractures in his lower back. Greg Olsen tied a career

high with 10 catches for 110 yards, and rookie Kelvin Benjamin had eight grabs for 104 yards.

Josh McCown threw a touchdown pass and ran for another for the Bucs (2-11).

Chiefs 31, Raiders 13

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Alex Smith threw for 297 yards and two scores, while Kansas City shut down Derek Carr and the Oakland offense.

Knile Davis had touchdowns running and re-

ceiving, and De'Anthony Thomas returned a punt 81 yards for another score as the Chiefs (8-6) got even for a 24-20 loss to Oakland (2-12) last month.

The Chiefs led 10-6 early in the third quarter before scoring three touchdowns in 4 minutes, 42 seconds. The last was a 70-yard throw from Smith to Davis, who had taken over the majority of running back duties after Jamaal Charles took a shot to the head. □



Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rogers walks of the field after loosing the NFL football game 21-13 to the Buffalo Bills at Ralph Wilson Stadium on Sunday, Dec. 14, 2014, in Orchard Park, NY. Associated Press

The Falcons (5-9) ensured themselves of a losing season and slipped out of first place in the NFC South.

Pittsburgh led 13-0 after Gay picked off Matt Ryan's pass over the middle on the first play of the second quarter, returning it 52 yards. The Steelers extended the lead to 27-13 with Le'Veon Bell's 1-yard run in the opening minute of the fourth period.

The Falcons made a game of it, pulling within a touchdown on Ryan's 4-yard

Jacksonville (2-12) tried just about everything in its bid to pull off an upset, including an onside kick and a fake punt. Both worked, but it wasn't enough to earn the Jaguars their first win on the road.

Panthers 19, Buccaneers 17

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Derek Anderson threw for 277 yards and a touchdown, Graham Gano kicked four field goals and the Panthers improved their chances in the NFC

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Bernhard and Jason Langer win Father-Son Challenge



Bernhard Langer, left, of Germany, and his son Jason Langer walk down the first fairway after teeing off during the first round of the Father/Son Challenge golf tournament in Orlando, Fla., Saturday, Dec. 13, 2014. Associated Press

ORLANDO, Florida (AP) — Bernhard and Jason Langer won the PNC Father-Son Challenge on Sunday, closing with a 13-under 59 for a two-stroke victory in the better-ball event. The Langers finished at 23-under 123 at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Club's Grande Lake Orlando. Fourteen-year-old Jason jumped into the lineup Saturday when sister Christina withdrew because of back issues. Bernhard Langer earned \$200,000. Davis Love III and son Dru also shot a 59 to finish second. Curtis and Tom Strange tied for third with Vijay and Qass Singh at 20 under. The Stranges shot 62, and the Singhs had a 61. □

F1 champion Lewis Hamilton wins BBC award

GLASGOW, Scotland (AP) — Lewis Hamilton has been voted BBC Sports Personality of the Year after winning his second Formula One title. The 29-year-old Mercedes driver says "I honestly was not expecting this" after beating top-ranked golfer Rory McIlroy, who won two major titles in 2014, to the prestigious British award on Sunday. Long-distance runner Jo Pavey was third in the public vote. When Hamilton won his first F1 title in 2008, he was second to Chris Hoy in the BBC poll. Portugal forward Cristiano Ronaldo succeeded Sebastian Vettel as the overseas award winner after becoming football's world player of the year and helping Real Madrid win the Champions League. □

Khan wins welterweight decision over Alexander

TIM DAHLBERG
AP Boxing Writer
LAS VEGAS (AP) — Amir Khan put his name in the mix for a possible fight with Floyd Mayweather Jr., using his speed and accurate right hand Saturday night to win a lopsided 12-round decision over former champion Devon Alexander in a welterweight matchup. Khan (30-3) won round after round using the same formula, jabbing at Alexander and following it with right hands that found their

"I didn't call Floyd Mayweather out with total confidence before, but now I feel I proved to everyone I deserve that fight," Khan said. Promoter Oscar De La Hoya said it is a fight he would love to make, if Mayweather and Manny Pacquiao can't come to terms for a bout next year. Mayweather said Friday he wanted to fight Pacquiao, but immediately put conditions on negotiations for what would be the richest fight ever.

Alexander pressed forward through the fight, but never seemed able to solve the speed and accurate punching of Khan.

"I was having a hard time catching him," Alexander said. "I tried to follow the game plan but something just wasn't right."

Late in the fight, Khan started opening up more, throwing flurries of punches to Alexander's head. Alexander kept advancing, but didn't throw nearly enough punches and landed even fewer even as he needed a knockout to pull out the fight.

Still, there were scattered boos from the crowd of 7,768 at the MGM Grand in the final round.

The stakes were high for both fighters on a night where top welterweights jockeyed for position on two different cards on the Las Vegas Strip. Timothy Bradley, who lost his last fight to Manny Pacquiao, drew with Diego Chaves in an HBO fight down the street at the Cosmopolitan. Khan was a 3-1 favorite against Alexander, a former champion who has held titles at 140 and 147 pounds. The British fighter was offered a chance to fight Alexander for a title at this time last year, but declined the fight because he thought he would get a bout with Mayweather instead.

Mayweather, though, picked Marcos Maidana as his opponent, and this time Khan didn't really have a choice but to fight Alexander.

In another welterweight bout with big fight implications, Keith Thurman won an easy decision over Italy's Leonard Bundu to remain unbeaten in 24 fights. But the big puncher didn't win over the crowd at the MGM, which booed him in the ring afterward for not knocking out Bundu.

Thurman also didn't do much to boost his stock for a main event fight, though he could be in one next against Marcos Maidana, who watched from ringside. □



Amir Khan, right, holds up a belt after defeating Devon Alexander in their welterweight bout Saturday, Dec. 13, 2014, in Las Vegas. Oscar De La Hoya is on the left. Associated Press

mark more often than they missed. The British fighter didn't knock down Alexander (26-3) and never seemed to really hurt him, but was impressive enough to solidify his spot in the lineup for a possible fight next year with Mayweather.

Khan's quickness was too much from the opening bell as he kept the southpaw Alexander on the outside and was first with his punches in most exchanges.

Khan pitched a shutout on one ringside scorecard, winning 120-108, while the other judges scored it 119-109 and 118-110. The Associated Press scored it 119-109.

"He almost had a perfect fight with a southpaw, which is very complicated," De La Hoya said. "He has proven himself over and over again. You can see the determination in Khan's eyes that he wants Mayweather."

Khan never seemed to hurt Alexander but was in control throughout. His dominance was shown by ringside stats that had him landing 243 of 563 punches to 91 of 461 for former two-time champion.

"I'm getting better with age," the 28-year-old said. "The Mayweather fight didn't happen last year, but I now believe I've earned it this year."

Identity theft victims face months of hassle

By BRANDON BAILEY

AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) -- As soon as Mark Kim found out his personal information was compromised in a data breach at Target last year, the 36-year-old tech worker signed up for the retailer's free credit monitoring offer so he would be notified if someone used his identity to commit fraud. Someone did. The first monitoring report showed crooks opened accounts in his name at Macy's and Kohl's department stores, where they racked up more than \$7,000 in charges. "My heart basically sank," he said. Over the next seven months the New York City resident spent hours on the phone, most of a day in a police station filing a report, and countless time sending documents to banks and credit reporting agencies to clear his credit history.

He's hardly alone. The Target hack during last year's Black Friday shopping weekend was just one in a wave of data breaches that have exposed more than 100 million customer records at U.S. retailers, banks and Internet companies. The latest high-profile hack, at Sony Pictures Entertainment, resulted in Social Security numbers and other personal details of nearly 50,000 current and former Sony employees and film actors being stolen and posted online for anyone to see. While cases are difficult to trace, analysts at Javelin Strategy & Research estimate that one in three Americans affected by a data breach ultimately became the victim of fraud last year - up from one in nine in 2010. Although banks often absorb bogus charges, it's up to victims to clean up their credit histories and recover stolen funds. On top of lost time, money and emotional energy, victims face the frustration of rarely seeing anyone pay for the crimes. Identity theft cases are rarely prosecuted, said Avivah

Litan, an analyst who studies fraud and identity theft for the research firm Gartner. Local police have limited resources, and criminals are often overseas, "so unless it's part of a bigger pattern, they're not going to spend much time pursuing it." Kim said a police detective who took his complaint later told him the accounts were opened by someone in California, but Kim never heard any more about the investigation.

In the past year, Target and other major retailers have said they're increasing security. President Obama has urged banks and stores to speed up adoption of "chip-and-pin" payment cards, which are harder



In this Dec. 2, 2014 file photo, identity theft victim Mark Kim poses for photos in front of a Target store, in the Brooklyn borough of New York.

Your info has been hacked. Now what do you do?

By BRANDON BAILEY

AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) --

Criminals stole personal information from tens of millions of Americans in data breaches this past year. Of those affected, one in three may become victims of identity theft, according to research firm Javelin. Whether shopping, banking or going to the hospital, Americans are mostly at the mercy of companies to keep their sensitive details safe. But there are steps you can take to protect yourself against the financial, legal and emotional impact of identity theft - and most of them are free:

AS A RULE:

- Closely guard your social security numbers - and those of your children - as well as credit and debit card information and account passwords.
- Shred unneeded financial records and credit offers.

DETECTIVE WORK:

- Examine credit card bills for irregularities each month.
- Get a free credit report once a year from at least one of the major reporting agencies (Equifax,



In this Friday, Nov. 28, 2014 file photo, a shopper pays for her purchases at a Target store in South Portland, Maine.

Associated Press

Experian, TransUnion), and review it for unauthorized accounts. Ignore services that charge a fee for credit reports. You can order them without charge at www.annualcreditreport.com. If you order from each agency once a year, you could effectively check your history every four months.

DO PAID SERVICES WORK?

- Some experts say there's not much to be gained from a paid credit monitoring service. But if a business sends you a notice of a data breach, it can't hurt to sign up for any monitoring they offer for free. These services will tell you if a

new account is opened in your name, but they won't prevent it, and many don't check for things like bogus cellphone accounts or fraudulent applications for government benefits. Some do offer limited insurance or help from a staffer trained to work with credit issuers and reporting agencies.

SOMEONE STOLE MY IDENTITY, WHAT DO I DO?

- The Federal Trade Commission recommends immediately notifying one of the credit agencies and requesting a 90-day credit alert. (Each reporting agency is supposed to notify the others, but you may want to contact all three yourself.)

to hack. But reports of data breaches continue. And as Federal Trade Commission member Terrell McSweeney said recently, "Disturbingly, the news has seemed to desensitize many people to the real risks created each time an event occurs."

Kim can't be certain Target was the source of the fraud he experienced, he acknowledged. Experts say crooks often steal or buy consumer information from more than one source, and use it to compile a complete dossier on potential victims. That's likely the way hackers last year impersonated the rich and famous to get credit reports on Paris Hilton, Michelle Obama and even General Keith Alexander, then-head of the National Security Agency.

Alexander told a public forum this fall that when he tried to file his taxes, he learned someone else had already claimed a \$9,000 refund in his name. Fraudsters also used his identity to apply for about 20 credit cards. The FBI eventually caught a suspect, he said; the FBI declined comment.

Meticulous by nature, Kim documented every conversation with an investigator or company representative.

Wealth Matters: What to Do When Your Financial Adviser Retires

PAUL SULLIVAN

© 2014 New York Times

Financial advisers as a group are aging, and that means many of them are about to retire or transfer their practices to someone younger, just as doctors, dentists and other professionals do.

But for clients who have worked with the same adviser for decades - and may be close to the adviser in age and outlook - the change could come just

source of capital for advisers with a small or midsize client base who are looking for an exit strategy. The firm now consists of 30 adviser groups that manage \$80 billion.

The numbers are on his side. According to a study in August from Cerulli Associates, 43 percent of advisers are older than 55; the average age is 51. An earlier Cerulli report found that advisers older than 60 control \$2.3 trillion in wealth.

any transition occurs: What is the adviser's plan? Not having one is a red flag that the adviser is not planning far enough into the future on that issue and maybe others.

There isn't necessarily one right answer. It could be that the adviser is grooming a team internally to take over. Or the adviser has a close relationship with another adviser who has a similar approach. But what matters is that thought has

tion process a year or two before the actual date in order to get clients comfortable with the new adviser. If the fit doesn't work, the firm will look for another adviser for that client.

"Clients need to say, 'My retirement is going to last 30 years. Where are you going to be?'" Saganey said.

Clients who are being moved to another adviser should assess the replacement as if they were looking for an adviser for the first time, said Stephen Horan, managing director and co-leader of the CFA Institute, which administers the chartered financial analyst designation. He said making sure the new adviser had the same style as the departing adviser was crucial if clients were going to be able to stick to their financial plans.

"If the person is internal and has been groomed you'd expect to see a lot of alignment," Horan said. "Still, you want to get a sense of, is that new approach something I'd be comfortable with? Is it purely investment management or does it include other financial planning?"

Since many financial adviser relationships are long-lasting, either because of great service, inertia or the adviser was your college roommate, an adviser's retirement is a great time for clients to assess how their needs have changed. After decades of accumulating wealth, they may be entering a phase where they will no longer have income and will be spending what they saved.

Brad Bueermann, chief executive of FP Transitions, which values adviser practices for sale, said client retention rates for fee-only businesses are in the 95 to 98 percent range, and clients who have been with a firm for at least 10 years are the least likely to leave. (The retention rates are lower for transactional practices that rely on the old stockbroker model of selling products and receiving a commission.)

Wall Street wins a round in fight with Dodd-Frank

PETER EAVIS

© 2014 New York Times

When Wall Street traders sense opportunity in the markets they pursue it with a sharklike intensity.

After scoring a victory in Washington that repeals a rule that the industry has long assailed, the large banks are most likely weighing where to strike next.

Wall Street won when the House of Representatives last week passed a broad spending bill that contained a provision that rolls back a rule affecting derivatives, the financial product that helped cause the financial crisis of 2008. The Senate is expected to pass the budget legislation containing the repeal this weekend.

A repeal would show that, six years after the financial crisis, large banks have found a way to kill off regulations that were part of the Dodd-Frank Act, the sweeping legislation that Congress passed in 2010 to overhaul the financial system.

The House's vote seemed to reverberate around Washington on Friday.

"I thought that, when Dodd Frank started, that the banks would not succeed in influencing it, having lost all the prestige they lost," said Stanley Fischer, the vice chairman of the Federal Reserve, at a conference on Friday at the Peterson Institute for International Economics in Washington. "Boy, was I wrong," he added.

Wall Street's recent campaign also suggests that large banks now see fewer risks in openly fighting to overturn regulation. Citigroup, which received more than \$50 billion of bailout money after it nearly collapsed in 2008, helped write legislation that was behind the proposed repeal of the rule. And The Washington Post reported that Jamie Dimon, the chief executive of JPMorgan Chase, called lawmakers to express his support for the repeal. Only last year, Dimon was fighting to save his professional reputation after his bank racked up huge losses trading the type of instruments that the derivatives rule focused on.



Leslie Quick III, right, a founding partner of Massey Quick, with Christopher Moore, chief investment officer, who often takes the lead with younger clients, in Morristown, N.J., Dec. 11, 2014. Financial advisers as a group are aging and that means many of them are about to retire or transfer their practices to someone younger, just like doctors, dentists and other professionals do.

(Karsten Moran/The New York Times)

when they need that person the most: to help them financially manage their own retirement.

A lot is riding on how an adviser handles the transition, and clients need to be prepared to ask hard questions - or even find a new adviser if the conversation does not go well.

"If clients ask what their succession plans are and if the answer is 'Don't worry about it; I'll live forever,' that's a terrible answer," said Ruediger Adolf, founder and chief executive of Focus Financial Partners. "If there is no next generation of advisers around, they're not doing their jobs. They're not protecting their client." Adolf has a lot to gain from this belief. His firm was created in part to serve as a

In addition, the industry is failing to attract enough younger advisers. A study from the Oechsli Institute, which consults with financial advisers, found that only 23 percent were younger than 40 - meaning there is a dearth of people who are working if you retire today who will still be working 30 years from now. When clients find themselves transferred to a new adviser at a new firm or a younger adviser at the same firm, they have to ask questions to make sure the process has been handled in their best interest - and not just as a way for advisers to sell their books of business and pad their own retirements.

The most basic question should be asked before

been put into planning.

"A lot of advisers mistakenly think they can work forever," said Matt Oechsli, president of the Oechsli Institute. "The whole Great Recession has been very trying on advisers. It's forced advisers to really raise their game and provide much more competent wealth management services and, many times, to form teams."

Paul Saganey, founder and president of Integrated Financial Partners, which manages \$5 billion, said all his adviser teams were required to have succession plans for both retirement and less predictable events, like dying or becoming disabled.

Retiring advisers are expected to begin the transi-

The American Cop Mind



DAVID BROOKS
© 2014 New York Times

Like a lot of people in journalism, I began my career, briefly, as a police reporter. As the Michael Brown and Eric Garner cases have unfolded, I've found myself thinking back to those days. Nothing excuses specific acts of police brutality, especially in the Garner case, but not enough attention is being paid to the emotional and psychological challenges of being a cop.

Early on, I learned that there is an amazing variety of police officers, even compared to other professions. Most cops are conscientious, and some, especially among detectives, are brilliant. They spend much of their time in the chaotic and depressing nether-reaches of society: busting up domestic violence disputes, dealing with drunks and drug addicts, coming upon fatal car crashes, managing conflicts large and small.

They ride an emotional and biochemical roller coaster. They experience moments of intense action and alertness, followed by emotional crashes marked by exhaustion, and isolation. They become hypervigilant. Surrounded by crime all day, some come to perceive that society is more threatening than it really is. To cope, they emotionally armor up. Many of the cops I was around developed a cynical, dehumanizing and hard-edge sense of humor that was an attempt to insulate themselves from the pain of seeing a dead child or the extinguished life of a young girl they arrived too late to save.

Many of us see cops as relatively invulnerable as they patrol the streets. The cops themselves do not perceive their situation that way. As criminologist George Kelling wrote in *City Journal* in 1993, "It is a common myth that police officers approach conflicts with a feeling of power - after all, they are armed, they represent the state, they are specially trained and backed by an 'army.' In reality, an officer's gun is almost always a liability ... because a suspect may grab it in a scuffle. Officers are usually at a disadvantage because they have to intervene in unfamiliar terrain, on someone else's territory. They worry that bystanders might become involved, either by helping somebody the officer has to confront or, after the fact, by second-guessing an officer's conduct."

Even though most situations are not dangerous, danger is always an out-of-the-blue possibility, often in the back of the mind.

In many places, a self-supporting and insular police culture develops: In this culture no one understands police work except fellow officers; the training in the academy is useless; to do the job you've got to bend the rules and understand the law of the jungle; the world is divided into two sorts of people - cops and a-holes.

This is a life of both boredom and stress. Life expectancy for cops is lower than for the general population. Cops suffer disproportionately from peptic ulcers, back disorders and heart disease. In one study, suicide rates were three times higher among cops than among other municipal workers. Other studies have found that somewhere between 7 percent and 19 percent of cops suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder. The effect is especially harsh on those who have been involved in shootings. Two-thirds of the officers who have been involved in shootings suffer moderate or severe emotional problems. Seventy percent leave the police force within seven years of the incident.

Most cops know they walk a dangerous line, between necessary and excessive force. According to a 2000 National Institute of Justice study, more than 90 percent of the police officers surveyed said that it is wrong to respond to verbal abuse with force. Nonetheless, 15 percent of the cops surveyed were aware that officers in their own department sometimes or often did so. And through the years, departments have worked to humanize the profession. Overall, police use of force is on the decline, along with the crime rate generally. According to the Department of Justice, the number of incidents in which force was used or threatened declined from 664,000 in 2002 to 574,000 in 2008. Community policing has helped bind police forces closer to the citizenry.

A blind spot is race. Only 1 in 20 white officers believe that blacks and other minorities receive unequal treatment from the police. But 57 percent of black officers are convinced the treatment of minorities is unfair.

But at the core of profession lies the central problem of political philosophy. How does the state preserve order through coercion? When should you use overwhelming force to master lawbreaking? When is it wiser to step back and use patience and understanding to defuse a situation? How do you make this decision instantaneously, when testosterone is flowing, when fear is in the air, when someone is disrespecting you and you feel indignation rising in the gut? Racist police brutality has to be punished. But respect has to be paid. Police serve by walking that hazardous line where civilization meets disorder.



The New Republic's Rebellion



JOE NOCERA
© 2014 New York Times

I asked Marty Peretz the other day whether his goal during the nearly four decades that he had owned The New Republic was ever to make a profit. "Absolutely not," he bellowed. "I think we were profitable maybe three or four years." One year, he said, the magazine's staff threw a pizza party to celebrate being in the black - "and the party put us back in the red." He was only half-joking.

No, Peretz owned The New Republic because it gave him a megaphone on issues he cared about, like Israel. Influence accrued to him, as did a certain social status that came with owning a magazine that mattered to the policy elites in Washington, D.C., and Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Strange as this may seem, this has long been the "business model" for policy and political magazines. Harper's Magazine is published by Rick MacArthur, and its losses are covered by the J. Roderick MacArthur Foundation. For years, Mort Zuckerman, the real estate mogul, picked up The Atlantic's losses.

Peretz told me that during his tenure, The New Republic lost an annual sum in the low six figures, which he covered. So long as the losses were manageable,

the owner would write a check. If the losses became too onerous, then the owner would look to sell. Thus it was that in 2012, with The New Republic's losses rising to around \$3 million, Peretz sold the magazine to Chris Hughes, who got rich by being one of the original executives at Facebook. (He was Mark Zuckerberg's roommate in college.) With a net worth said to be around \$700 million, Hughes was in a position to subsidize his new toy for a very long time. "I told him that if he wanted to maintain a serious and substantial publication, he should look forward to losses for some years," Peretz said.

In the two years that Hughes has owned it, The New Republic regained its reputation for smart, lively, engaging journalism. But he also appears to have quickly tired of losing money. A few months ago, he hired a new chief executive, Guy Vidra, from Yahoo. Vidra immediately began using words like "disruption" and "innovation" and "breaking stuff" (though he didn't use the word "stuff").

The first time many New Republic staff members heard their company described as a "vertically integrated digital media company" was when Vidra made his first big presentation to the writers and editors. In an op-ed article that Hughes wrote in The Washington Post - after The New Republic's editor-in-chief and literary editor had resigned, and most of the staff had walked out with them - he said that The New Republic could no longer be a "charity," and that his goal was to make it a "sustainable business." In other words, he wants to make a profit.

Not that there's anything wrong with that. It is just hard to see how he is going to get there.

The truth is, the jury is still out on the profit-making ability of digital publications. Slate, which has been around since 1996, makes

money, but not much. The Atlantic under David Bradley, its current owner, has a terrific digital presence, not to mention 500,000 print subscribers. It also makes money. But, again, those profits are modest. Venture capitalists are throwing money at new online media ventures like Vox, but we are a long way from knowing whether they will ever be profitable. None of the digital media companies have gone public, so their profits or losses are hidden from view.

The New Republic, on the other hand, has a print circulation of around 42,000. Its current website is lively, but clearly it wasn't generating the number of clicks that its new owner wanted. Even before Vidra joined, The New Republic's business executives were trying to get the editors to do things that would attract more clicks. One executive suggested that Michael Kinsley - a former New Republic editor himself - come up with a listicle, a la BuzzFeed. ("10 reasons why health care isn't a free market.") Is it any wonder that the staff walked out when this plan was finally unveiled? Their earnest little magazine is the opposite of BuzzFeed.

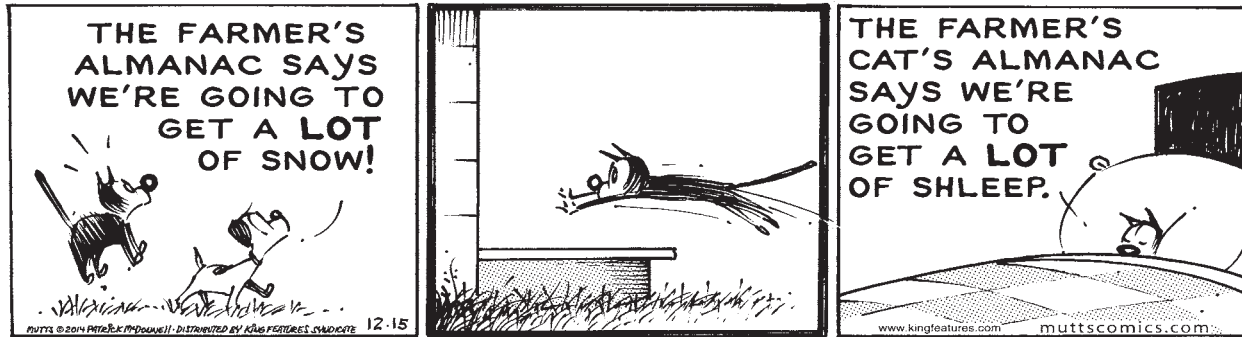
That's what they loved about it. Or at least it was.

When I spoke to Vidra last week, he stressed to me that The New Republic was not going to abandon its heritage of thoughtful journalism and provocative ideas. When I asked him whether he would follow the model of The Atlantic, he demurred. He instead suggested that Vox Media was a more appropriate model for what he had in mind.

After we spoke, I went to the Vox website. I scrolled down until I saw a headline that stopped me cold. "Everybody farts," it read. "But here are 9 surprising facts about flatulence you may not know."

Goodbye, New Republic.

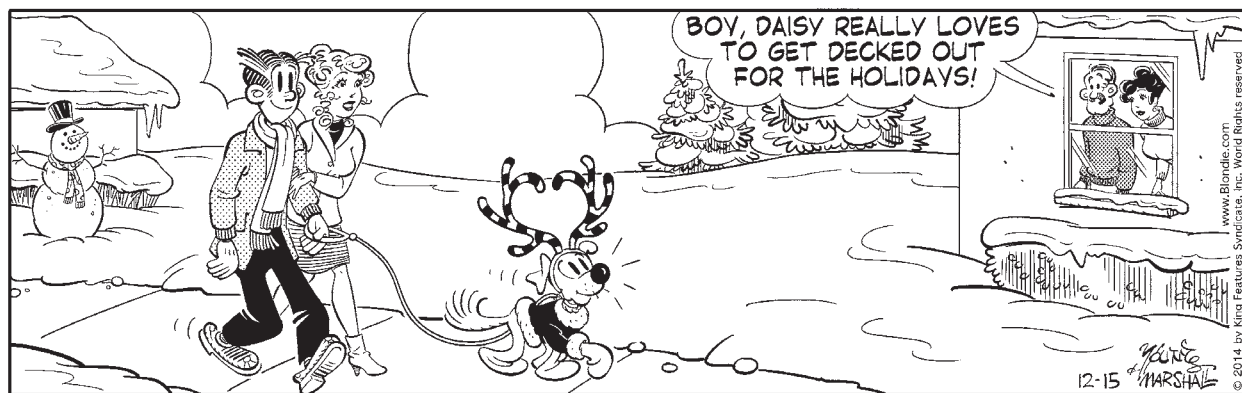
Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



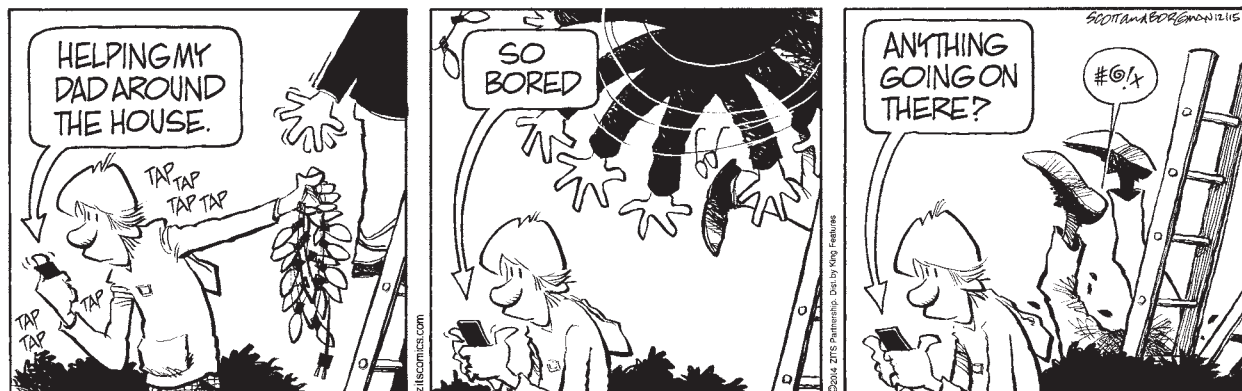
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

7		1			4	8	2	
			6	1				4
4		6						7
	2		9		1			8
	6						4	
3			8		2		9	
1						7		9
9				8	3			
	4	8	2			5		3

Difficulty Level ★

12/15

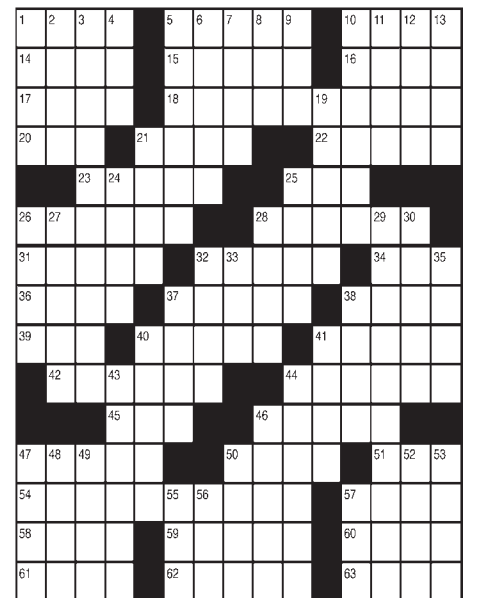
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Saturday's puzzle answer

8	2	5	7	3	4	9	6	1
6	4	1	2	9	8	5	3	7
3	7	9	6	1	5	4	8	2
7	9	8	3	4	2	1	5	6
5	1	3	9	6	7	8	2	4
2	6	4	8	5	1	3	7	9
9	5	7	1	8	6	2	4	3
4	3	2	5	7	9	6	1	8
1	8	6	4	2	3	7	9	5

ACROSS

- 1 ___ over; deliver
5 Play a guitar
10 ___ around; look for a good buy
14 "Take ___ leave it"
15 Stop
16 Skimpy skirt
17 Small horse
18 True remorse
20 Hot tub
21 Mom's sister
22 Performed on stage
23 Anteroom
25 Antlered animal
26 Glows
28 "Julius ___", tragedy by Shakespeare
31 Summoned with a beeper
32 Sings
34 Milk producer
36 Jillian & Curry
37 End-of-the-semester exam
38 Accurate
39 Foot digit
40 Fire engine's blaring device
41 Winter forecast
42 High principles
44 Spheres of the world
45 Late actress ___ McClanahan
46 Garbo of films
47 Frequently
50 Burden
51 Afternoon hour
54 Unstable; risky
57 Competed
58 Vane direction
59 Rains heavily
60 ___ tea
61 Party bowlful
62 Like a garden after the rain
63 ___ for; requests



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

12/15/14

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

CHRIS	SPAN	FIST
ROUGE	TIDE	INTO
ARENA	ATOP	GLOW
BASILICA	ADHERE	
TIDY	PLATTER	
ATHENA	SEIZE	
LEE	GHANA	ERECT
PART	ORALS	SALE
SLOOP	MISER	SUN
LABEL	WASTED	
ALLEGED	VEIL	
REARED	TERMINAL	
DANA	BARE	EVASIVE
OVEN	UPON	NERDS
REST	GETS	TRYST

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12/15/14

DOWN

- 1 With hands on ___; akimbo
2 Perched upon
3 Neutral; not taking sides
4 Parched
5 Operating room attire
6 Very small
7 Engrossed
8 ___ up; spend
9 Fellows
10 Noisy kisses
11 Suggestion
12 ___ more; again
13 "The ___ Piper of Hamelin"
19 "Andersen's Fairy ___"
21 In the sack
24 Dollar bills
25 British peer
26 Argument
27 Capital of Vietnam
28 James or Scott
29 Gymnastics
30 Awaken
32 Gentlemen
33 180° from WSW
35 Moistens
37 Rank and ___; common folks

- 38 Horse's gait
40 Steam bath
41 Escaped
43 Builds
44 Lawn-covered
46 Melon or squash
47 ___ house; realtor's event
48 German señora
49 SAT, for one
50 Noisy
52 7-day period
53 Chances
55 Record speed letters
56 Debtor's note
57 By way of

Jamaica truth commission explores bloody slum raid

DAVID McFADDEN

Associated Press

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)

— Adina Derby raised her voice in anger and grief as she recalled the morning when masked soldiers and police raided her West Kingston neighborhood, using mortar rounds to blast through street barricades of junked cars and piles of wood.

"They come with blood in their eyes to kill off everybody!" Derby exclaimed, describing how she was shot in the back while trying vainly to save her wounded 20-year-old son by pushing him on a handcart to a nearby hospital.

Joan McCarthy recounted seeing policemen grab her nephew and son-in-law during a door-to-door search and hustle them out of sight. She said the officers dragged away their bodies minutes later wrapped loosely in a sheet taken from her own bed. One after another, survivors from the warren-like Tivoli Gardens slum are telling a truth commission what they experienced during one of the bloodiest incidents in Jamaica's recent history, the 2010 raid to capture a gang kingpin who ran a criminal fiefdom that seemed untouchable until Jamaica reluctantly agreed to act on a U.S. extradition warrant.

The commission, which began hearing testimony this month from slum residents was appointed by the government largely in response to widespread complaints that authorities summarily executed people and trampled civil rights in the hunt for Christopher "Dudus" Coke, the second-generation leader of the feared Shower Posse gang. Police and military officials are expected to testify after the Christmas holidays.

The panel of two retired judges and a university professor is supposed to present a report and recommendations to the island's governor general. It's not yet clear whether any judicial proceedings will follow the testimony,



Market vendor Adina Derby takes an oath before testifying to a truth commission about the 2010 state of emergency when security forces conducted a raid to capture a gang kingpin that killed at least 76 civilians and one soldier, at a conference center in Kingston, Jamaica.

(AP Photo/David McFadden)

which is expected to be completed within three months.

At least 76 civilians died during the May 2010 security operation, and the country's public defender has said 44 of those may have been unjustifiable homicides. One soldier was killed.

Authorities have rejected allegations of brutality. Then-Police Commissioner Owen Ellington said the offensive was launched

after gangsters loyal to Coke shot up police stations and burned two to the ground with Molotov cocktails. He said the raid and the two-month state of

emergency that followed was also needed to beat back gangs that have long plagued Jamaica. There's been a sharp drop in violent crime since.

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Oranjestad

Dr. Dennert

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24/7

Great Lakes water level slump over, future unclear

By **JOHN FLESHER**
AP Environmental Writer
TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. (AP)

-- Two unusually wet years have finally ended the lengthiest period on record of low Great Lakes water levels - a blessing for long-suffering cargo shippers and recreational boaters - although scientists said Tuesday it's uncertain whether the recovery is temporary or heralds a trend.

Four of the giant lakes - Superior, Huron, Michigan and Erie - were above their average monthly levels in November, while Lake Ontario was slightly below. In September, all five were simultaneously above average for the first time since the drop-off began in the late 1990s. A newly released forecast predicts little change over the next six months.

It's a dramatic and remarkably swift rebound from January 2013, when Michigan and Huron - which are linked and have the same level - reached their lowest point since the government began keeping records nearly a century earlier. The others were mired in a prolonged slump, although



Ontario was better off because hydropower dams help regulate its ups and downs.

"On Superior, Michigan and Huron, we haven't seen two-year water level increases of this magnitude" in recorded history, said Keith Kompoltowicz, a hydrologist with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers district office in Detroit.

The wild swing illustrates the uncertainty that may con-

front the eight states and two Canadian provinces where the lakes are an economic pillar and source of drinking water for more than 30 million people. Climate models suggest global warming may fuel increasingly severe storms and droughts, along with temperature extremes that can influence evaporation rates.

"That's certainly a risk going forward," said Jim

Noel of the NOAA Ohio River weather forecasting center. "When we have a warming climate system, the bottom line is that it yields greater year-to-year variability."

But scientists avoided specific predictions beyond their six-month forecast, saying too many factors were uncertain.

What is clear is that the recent comeback was propelled by heavy rain and

snow over the lakes themselves and within their watershed, which increased runoff from land, Kompoltowicz said.

Evaporation also influences water levels. Scientists say it played a leading role in the 15-year low period, as shrinking ice cover boosted winter evaporation rates. But more recent studies suggest heavy evaporation takes place before ice sheets form, which could partially offset the benefit of ice in slowing evaporation.

Even the ice during last winter's deep freeze - which at one point covered more than 90 percent of the lakes' combined surface area - was a minor cause of the water level surge compared to the rain and snow, said Drew Gronewold, a hydrologist with the NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory in Ann Arbor.

Regardless of the cause, higher water is giving a break to the shipping industry, which for years has paid a stiff price as shallow harbors and channels forced vessels to lighten their loads of iron ore, coal and other bulk cargo.

Oil spill in Bangladesh threatens aquatic animals

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) — Authorities in Bangladesh were urgently assessing environmental damage in one of the world's largest mangrove forests on Friday after an oil tanker sank, threatening wildlife in the UNESCO World Heritage site, officials and local media said.

The oil tanker carrying more than 350,000 liters (92,500 gallons) of bunker oil sank Tuesday on a major river flowing through the Sundarbans after being hit

by a cargo vessel.

Officials said Friday the slick had spread over up to 70 kilometers (45 miles) of the Shela river, a major sanctuary for aquatic animals in the Sundarbans. At least 20 canals connected with the Shela as well as another major river, Pashur, have also been affected.

The oil spill is threatening several types of animals including rare Irrawaddy dolphins, a senior official of the Bangladesh Forest

Department said.

"The risk of damage to the biodiversity is high but we have yet to confirm any deaths of major animals including dolphins and crocodiles," said Tapan Kumer Dey, chief conservator of forest wildlife.

The sunken oil tanker was salvaged Thursday, more than 30 hours after it sank, and two of its six containers were badly damaged, said M. Giasuddin, an official of the company that owns

the vessel. He said it was not clear whether all of the oil had spilled into the water. Some news reports said more than 200,000 liters (52,800 gallons) of oil had contaminated waters in the Sundarbans.

"Several teams are desperately trying to determine the immediate impact. We are closely monitoring the situation as this is a major disaster," Dey said.

"We have spotted dolphins coming out of the water for

air and going down again in some places," he said. "Crocodiles' movement in the affected areas has been less after the disaster and we are trying to determine actually what happened to them."

Dhaka's Daily Star newspaper said oil has covered grasses and other plants on the banks of the rivers. It quoted a local resident as saying that he spotted two dead animals, a monitor lizard and an otter.

Bond producers say screenplay stolen in Sony hack

DANICA KIRKA
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — The producers of James Bond films have acknowledged that an early version of the screenplay for the new movie "SPECTRE" was among the material stolen in the massive cyberattack on Sony Pictures Entertainment.

The producers said in a statement Saturday that

take commercial advantage of confidential property it knows to be stolen." The warning was issued by EON productions, the U.K. affiliate of Danjaq LLC, the U.S.-based company that co-owns, with Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios, the copyright to the Bond films and their merchandising.

There's been speculation that North Korea is behind the cyberattack in retali-

being leaked almost daily, including an exchange between Oscar-winning producer Scott Rudin and Sony Pictures Entertainment co-chairman, Amy Pascal. Rudin called Angelina Jolie a "spoiled

brat" and made racially offensive jokes about President Barack Obama's presumed taste in movies. Rudin and Pascal have apologized.

The next 007 adventure, —called "SPECTRE," after

the dastardly fictional terrorist organization featured in "Dr. No" — is so hotly anticipated that even the revelation of its title was a media event. It will be Daniel Craig's fourth film as Bond. □



In this Thursday, Dec. 4, 2014, file photo actor Daniel Craig poses for photographers at the announcement for the new Bond film, the 24th in the series, at Pinewood Studios in west London.

Associated Press

they are concerned that third parties who received the screenplay might seek to publish it — and warned the material is subject to copyright protection around the world.

The producers promised to "take all necessary steps to protect their rights against the persons who stole the screenplay, and against anyone who makes infringing uses of it or attempts to

ation for the upcoming comedy "The Interview." That film depicts an assassination attempt on North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. North Korea has condemned the film, but denied the hack.

The revelation is just the latest among the spectacular leaks that are causing continuing embarrassment for Sony.

Highly sensitive material is

Chicken pox keeps Jolie from 'Unbroken' promotions

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Angelina Jolie is reluctantly calling in sick for "Unbroken" promotional duty.

Universal Pictures said Friday that Jolie is suffering from "a mild bout of chicken pox" that will keep her from making public appearances in the coming days to support the film, which she directed. "Unbroken," about former Olympian Louis Zamperini, is set to premiere in Los Angeles on Monday.

Universal said Jolie's children and her husband, Brad Pitt, will represent her at the premiere. The studio added that she's "in very

good spirits" regardless. The actress, appearing pale and drawn, also explained her plight in a YouTube post.

"I will be home itching and missing everyone," she says in the video. "I can't believe it, because this film means so much to me... But such is life. There it is."

Jolie's illness comes days after she was maligned by top Hollywood executives in private emails made public by the Sony cyber-attack and her film was ignored by the Screen Actors Guild and Golden Globe awards. □

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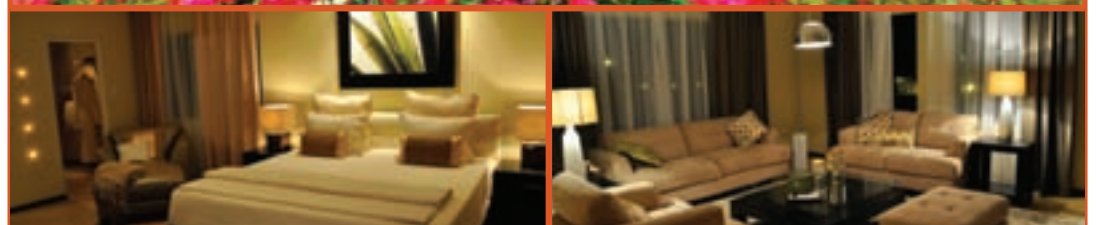
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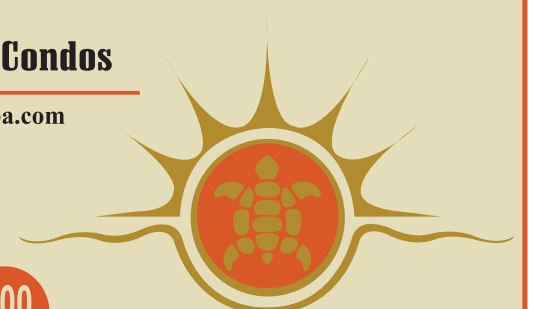


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'Exodus: Gods and Kings' conquers the box office

LINDSEY BAHR
AP Film Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — After three weeks of box office dominance, "The Hunger Games: Mockingjay — Part 1" ceded its reign to "Exodus: Gods and Kings." The biblical epic easily ruled the weekend with a \$24.5 million debut, according to box office tracker Rentrak's Sunday estimates, while "The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies" dominated international charts with a staggering \$117.6 million from 38 territories in advance of its North America release this week. "The Hunger Games: Mockingjay — Part 1," down 40 percent from last weekend, came in a distant second, earning \$13.2 million. With an expensive \$140 million production budget, "Exodus: Gods and Kings" met expectations in its first weekend. But it failed to live up to the precedent



This image released by 20th Century Fox shows Joel Edgerton, left, and Dar Salim in a scene from "Exodus: Gods and Kings." Associated Press

set by some recent biblical-themed films, including "Noah" which opened to \$43.7 million in March. "I think Hollywood is learning that putting epic, biblical stories on the big screen comes at a pretty heavy price. It's not easy to do this," Rentrak's senior media analyst Paul Dergarabedian said.

Fox's domestic distribution chief Chris Aronson said he is happy about the performance of his studio's film. "We're feeling great," Aronson said. "We came in right where our expectations were." According to the studio, opening weekend crowds for the film were divided fairly evenly down gender

lines, but they skewed older with 65 percent over the age of 25. "It's a very diverse audience," said Aronson, noting that 20 percent were African American and 18 percent Hispanic. "It's a movie for everyone." Also new in theaters, "Top Five," from writer, director and star Chris Rock, opened strongly. The Paramount-distributed comedy took in an estimated \$7.2 million from only 979 locations to take the fourth-place spot right behind "Penguins of Madagascar." "It's exactly what we needed to get this movie up and running," said Megan Collihan, Paramount's president of worldwide distribution. "It gives us the right rhythm to keep building and building. I think it's going to benefit from great word of mouth." "Top Five" will expand each weekend before hitting 2,000 screens by Jan. 1.

Despite the fact that nearly all expectations were met for this weekend's new openers, it paled in comparison to last year, which saw the opening of the second "Hobbit" film. Also, the overall box office is still down over five percent for the year, and the deficit is only growing. "We're running out of race-track," Dergarabedian said. "We're not going to have a record-breaking year." But there is a silver lining, he said. "For me, the hot spots are in the indie world," said Dergarabedian, noting the impressive five-screen, \$300,000 debut for Paul Thomas Anderson's "Inherent Vice," and the stunning growth of awards-friendly films like "The Imitation Game," "Birdman" and "Wild," which expanded to 116 screens and cracked the top 10 with \$1.6 million.

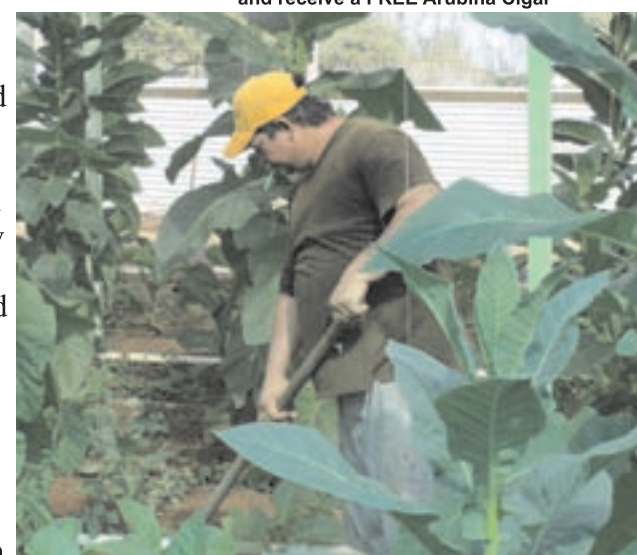
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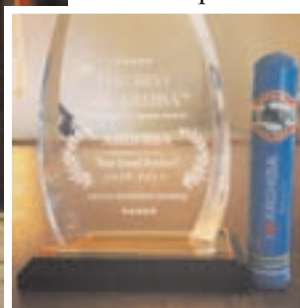
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ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi, a true native Aruban started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced hand rolled cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi always had a interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crops. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba, he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The whole process took him 10 years to perfect. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the moulding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. Their handmade cigar box is specially designed with their "Aruhiba" logo. Petrocchi considers Aruhiba as a promotion for Aruba through its fine cigars. The company sells Aruhiba to the international markets as well. Visit their retail store located in front of the Historic Dutch Windmill in front of the RIO Hotel, with any purchase of \$20 and up you receive a free "Aruhiba" cigar or ask for their gift box of 5 cigars get 1 FREE for only \$37. They open from Monday to Saturday from 9 am till 6:30 pm and on Sundays from 10 am to 4 pm. Aruhiba cigars are now available at the gift stores in your resort and at well-known cigar stores. For their complete selection and attractive by the box prices visit their retail store. Tours are also



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